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STATE

ACTION: NONE INFO: OALA/E[illegible] OALA/MC, OALA/MC/CA, OALA/MC/DC, OALA/MC/R-2, OALA/MCMIL, OALA/ME/LA[illegible] OALA/ME/MB, OALA/POLA, ODPN-N, ODPS-S, OGI/I, OGI/R-2, TF-E ( ), FILE, RF, EUR/SIGINT, LA-3, CR/WH, CRES/ARO, IAD/CAS-3, ICS/HTD, NICAG/LA, NIO/LA, OER, OGI-2, (17/W) CRW,

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82 8065876 SCR NC 8065876

TOR: 232149Z FEB 82

RR RUEAIIB
ZNY CCCCC ZDC STATE ZZH
STU8169
RR RUEHC
DE RUESAL #1502 0542115
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 232043Z FEB 82
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 8088
RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 147
RUEHME/AMEMBASSY MEXICO 1075
RUESRS/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 1881
RUEHZP/AMEMBASSY PANAMA 8841
RUESGT/AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA 266
RUEHLD/AMEMBASSY LONDON 398
RUESMG/AMEMBASSY MANAGUA 5819
RUESJO/AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE 2317
RUESTE/AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA 8600
RULPALJ/USCINCSO QUARRY HTS PN
BT
EZ1:
C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 1502
EZ2:
E. O. 12065: GDS 2/23/88 (BROWNFIELD, WILLIAM R.) OR-P
TAGS: PINT, PINS, ES, ELAB
SUBJ: EL SALVADOR'S NATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION INVITES [illegible]
[illegible]
REF: SAN SALVADOR 227

1. (U) DURING THE WEEK OF 2/15/82, EL SALVADOR'S NATIONAL LABOR AND CAMPESINO ASSOCIATION THE UNIDAD POPULAR DEMOCRATICA (UPD) INVITED MOST OF THE REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DEMOCRATIC LABOR CONFEDERAIONS TO SEND ELECTION OBSERVERS TO THE MARCH 28 ELECTIONS OF EL SALVADOR. WRITTEN INVITATIONS WERE EXTENDED TO THE ICFTU, WCL, ORIT, CLAT, AND THE CONFEDERATION OF CENTRAL AMERICAN WORKERS (CTCA). THE UPD ISSUED THE INVITATIONS INDEPENDENTLY OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, BUT A UPD SOURCE REPORTS THAT THEY HAVE SINCE COORDINATED THEIR INVITATIONS WITH THE APPROPRIATE FONMIN OFFICER. THE SAME SOURCE REPORTS THAT THE AFL-CIO-SUPPORITED ORIT AND CTCA HAVE ALREADY AGREED TO SEND OBSERVERS. ON THE BASIS OF THE RECENT VISIT TO SAN SALVADOR BY CLAT SECRETARY GENERAL EMILIO MESPERO (REFTEL), HE EXPECTS THE CLAT TO SEND OBSERVERS AS WELL. HE IS LESS CERTAIN ABOUT THE REACTIONS OF THE EUROPEAN-DOMINATED ICFTU AND WCL.

2. (U) IN A STATEMENT TO THE PRESS ON 2/20/82, UPD SPOKESMEN AGAIN "REITEREATED THEIR SUPPORT AND UNRESTRICTED BACKING FOR THE ELECTIONS, SINCE THEY CONSIDER THAT THEY MAY BE THE BEGINNING OF THE SOLUTION TO THE VIOLENT SITUATION."

3. (C) COMMENT. THE UPD INDEPENDENT DECISION TO INVITE ELECTION OBSERVERS FROM MAJOR INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS IS WELCOME FOR TWO REASONS. FIRST, IT SHOWS THAT THE UPD MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS CAN SET ASIDE THEIR INTRAMURAL DISPUTES IN ORDER TO PROMOTE THE ELECTION PROCESS. SECOND, INTERNATIONAL LABOR PARTICIPATION IS A WELCOME ADDITION IN THE CAMPAIGN TO ATTRACT ELECTION OBSERVERS. IF THE ICFTU OR THE WCL WERE TO ACCEPT THE INVITATIONS FROM THEIR SALVADORAN AFFILIATES, THEN THEY WOULD PROVIDE SOMEWHAT WIDER EUROPEAN PARTICIPATION IN THE ELECTION OBSERVER PROGRAM THAN WE CURRENTLY EXPECT. LABATTS AT ACTION ADDRESSEE POSTS MAY WISH TO SOUND OUT THEIR RESPECTIVE LABOR ORGANIZATIONS TO CONFIRM THAT THEY HAVE RECEIVED INVITATIONS AND TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO RESPONDE POSITIVELY.
HINTON

State Dept. review completed

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